



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska  
**Joe W. Stecher**

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December 23, 2008

United States Attorney Joe Stecher and the Lincoln Police Department, Lancaster County Sheriff's Department, Lancaster County Attorney's Office, and the Nebraska State Patrol announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:** On December 22, 2008, an indictment was unsealed charging a Lincoln man with possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute and two counts of using, carrying, or possessing a firearm in connection with a drug offense. The indictment also seeks forfeiture of the two guns, a 9 mm handgun and a 12 gauge shotgun to the United States. The charges resulted from a September 8, 2008, traffic stop and search of Pohlman's vehicle by Lincoln Police officers.

**Name of Defendant:** John Curtis Pohlman

**AKA:**

**Age:** 23

**City of residence:** Lincoln

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Count I: Possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1). Count II: Use, carry, or possess a firearm, to wit: a 9mm handgun and 17 9mm rounds, during or in furtherance of a drug offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A)(I). Count III: Forfeiture of the 9mm handgun and 9mm ammunition pursuant to Title 18, United States Code., Section 924(d) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c). Count IV: Use, carry, or possess a firearm, to wit: a 12 gauge shotgun, five 12 gauge rounds and one .32 caliber round of ammunition, during or in furtherance of a drug offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A)(I). Count V: Forfeiture of the 12 gauge shotgun and ammunition pursuant to Title 18, United States Code., Section 924(d) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c). The possible penalty for Count I is up to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1,000,000. Following any term of imprisonment, there would be a term of

supervised release of not less than three years. There is also a \$100 special assessment. The possible penalty for each of Counts II and IV is not less than five years nor more than life imprisonment consecutive to any prison term for Count I, and a fine of up to \$250,000. Following any prison term, there would be a term of supervised release of not more than five years. There is also a \$100 special assessment for each count. The possible penalties for Counts III and V is forfeiture of the guns to the United States.

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Lincoln

**Location of Arrest:** Lincoln

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:** 19.39 grams (slightly less than 3/4 ounce) of methamphetamine.

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:** none

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** On or about September 8, 2008

**Federal Arrest Date:** December 22, 2008

**Date Complaint Issued:**

**Indictment Returned Date:** November 18, 2008

**Initial Appearance Date:** December 23, 2008

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):**

**Sentencing Date:**

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** Trial, scheduled to begin on March 2, 2009

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** The Honorable David L. Piester

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:** held without bond

**In Continuous Custody Since:** December 22, 2009

**Assigned District Court Judge:** The Honorable Richard G. Kopf

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** SEF